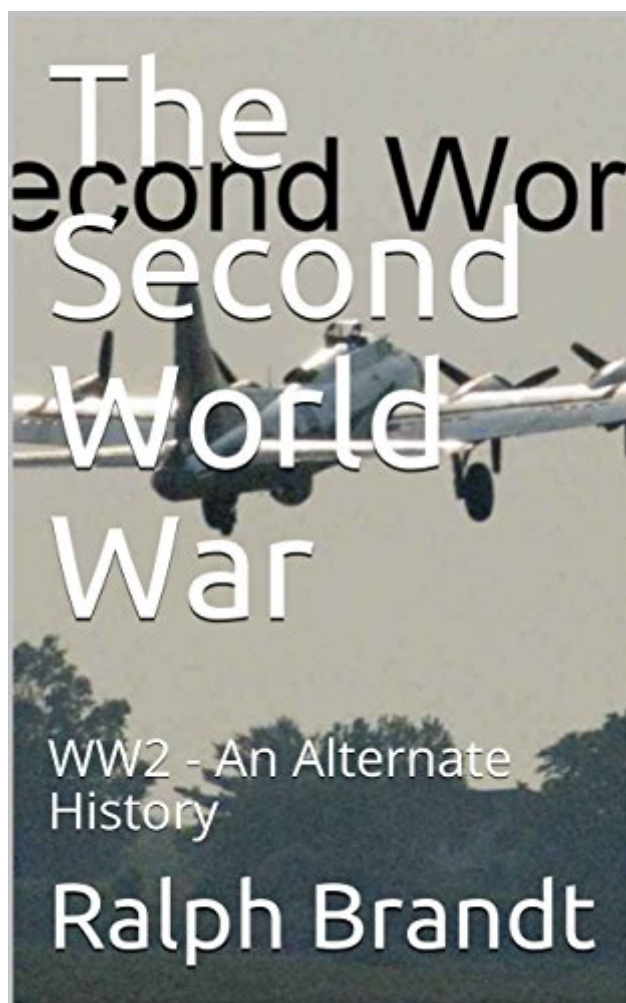


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The Second World War: WW2 - An Alternate History



Synopsis

What would have happened if FDR had decided to meet the Japanese in a sea battle north of Pearl on December 7, 1941? Would the war be ended in that battle? New Second edition published September 27, 2015

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Customer Reviews

While this was interesting to read, it is poorly edited and fairly unbelievable. Many minor inaccuracies (that have already been noted by other reviewers) mar the story, but you'll need to hit the I believe button a few more times than necessary. That being said, I did have a hard time putting it down (because I'm a nerd) and that's probably worth \$0.99. First, by Dec 7th, 41, no naval commander would ignore a warning about submarines. Especially, when the warning also mentioned that your surprise sortie to meet the enemy on the high seas was no longer a surprise. We're also supposed to believe that an aggressive commander like Bull Halsey would wait to be attacked before launching his air attack. Clearly, he would have put his air power over the enemy

and told them his men to attack the first time someone fired as much as a flare gun. And how did the Japanese subs magically know where to go to intercept the American battleship force that wasn't heading directly for the Japanese strike force? Next up, why wouldn't the Army also launch a strike force towards the enemy? Strangely, the land-based air power took the day off and waited for the Navy to get completely destroyed before flying away from the enemy. This is only done to preserve the author's desire to wipe out the US surface fleet. Also, keep in mind that if Yamamoto went into exile, there probably wouldn't have been 6 carriers in the strike. He had to threaten to resign to get all 6 carriers included in the strike force. Ozawa might be more aggressive than Nagumo, but he wouldn't have had the political clout to get all 6 carriers. Next, if the strike force was told that they had lost the element of surprise on 6 Dec, I'm betting they would have turned around. Remember, this was a HUGE gamble to catch the Pacific Fleet in Pearl. Once we get past these issues, then the author completely loses sight of the fact that once the American economy is dedicated to war production, it outproduced the Japanese in every conceivable way. Even a complete annihilation of the fleet on 7 Dec, wouldn't have changed that. The US produced 10 BBs and 28 fleet carriers during the war along with just over 200 subs. I'm not sure why the US Navy would suddenly forego surface fleet production to focus solely on subs. And the B-29 would not have been delayed, it would have been accelerated in just such a scenario. Range was everything in the Pacific. Next, the invasion of Alaska seems unlikely. The Japanese landed a small force on Kiska and Attu. They barely could sustain them. Actually invading Alaska with 35K men and sustaining that force would have been a huge drain on their resources. And then after the Pearl Harbor debacle the Americans wouldn't be concerned about a Japanese air base 800 miles from the Pacific Northwest? And why do we think that the US would cease to protect the West Coast in 1946? How would the 2 largest battleships in the world manage to sneak up on the West Coast and be able to engage in a shore bombardment? And then just leave? Also, the Japanese code was broken. Meanwhile, 35K Japanese troops advance across Alaska and Canada virtually unopposed? According to the narrative, we weren't using the Army in any other theater, but a force on our own continent is ignored? And how does 35K troops cover that distance without significant air support? They would have been seriously outnumbered and outgunned...and that's before we talk about how many aircraft the US and Canadian forces would be throwing at them. Overall, it was mostly fun to read, but you get the idea that the author has certain weapons that he favors beyond all reason and that allowed him to develop a ridiculous plot.

Good story and I agree our Navy did not stand a chance in 1941 of going toe to toe with Japan but I

still think we would have built carriers and not just subs and bombers to fight the war. Where were all of our ground troops when Japan invaded Alaska and marched towards the lower 48? It is worth your money.

Well worth the money simply for entertainment! For an historian versed in the Pacific War and the Home Front--Fascinating!

Interesting premise as to what could have happened. Enjoyed the story.

Great book and good read! Has a great story line and very much worth the price! Enjoy this book now

Loved the book. It was tough to put down. Well written. You have to read this with an open mind.

A good alternate history story, based on the premise that the US Pacific Fleet was ordered to intercept the approaching Japanese fleet, and almost totally destroyed at sea on 7 December 1941. Marred, however, by many irritating inaccuracies... battleships using their main armament (16.1" guns - actually 16" guns) in an anti-aircraft action ... a wolfpack attacking a convoy 1800 miles EAST of England would not have been annoying except for the (x 10 +) repetitions of "EAST". Sadly, an really inventive plot marred by poor research and inadequate editing.

Nothing wrong with the books premise however it was spoiled by basic mistakes such as the American battleships steaming at 27 knots when their top speed when built was 20/21 knots, the Japanese aircraft carrier was named Kaga not Lana, authors need to carry out deep research before publishing.

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